

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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THE GREAT CAVE OF BORNEO

Dark dwelling-place of man and beast for more than 40,000 years

At the recent annual meeting of the British Association, held in Glasgow, two scientists gave thrilling accounts of investigations made in a huge cave, known as the Niah, in the north of Sarawak, Borneo. A film on BBC Television has shown some of the wealth of finds made there by archaeologists; here, by courtesy of the British Association, we are able to give our readers some details of this dark dwelling-place of prehistoric men and beasts.

TEN years ago the archaeological map of the world was more or less a blank as far as Borneo was concerned. This was because the riotously growing jungle plants soon obliterated any traces early man may have left in the open. But one likely source of information remained—the caves where, shut away from the light, jungle plants cannot grow.

The Great Cave at Niah was first visited in 1947 by Mr. Tom Harrison, Curator of the Sarawak Museum, and he saw enough then to want to know more. He made a reconnaissance in 1954 and excavations began last year.

The Niah is a vast place with about 27 acres of floor space over which a man may walk—and in places crawl—for a mile in pitch darkness, moving among scorpions and centipedes as they scuttle over the deep earthen floor.

But scorpions and centipedes are by no means the only company revealed in the beam of the explorer's torch. Nesting in cranies of the rocky walls are perhaps two million small swifts. The Dayak people of Sarawak enjoy the flesh of these birds when cooked; and the nest they make, of a sort of cement from their beaks, is highly prized in the East as an ingredient for soup.

CREATURES OF THE SHADOWS

The swifts nest where the cave walls curve over to become the roof—in some places several hundred feet above the floor. There are other creatures, too, hanging from the walls and roof; creatures of the shadows in the shape of bats—three hundred thousand of them, including Naked Bats, Bent-winged Bats, Cave Fruit Bats, Mouse-eared Bats, and Bearded Tomb Bats. Some hang singly below the nests; others, in the highest parts of the roof, are suspended in huge clusters.

In the pitch darkness there are little thuds and scufflings on the cave floor where fledgling swift or baby bat has dropped from above to flutter helpless until night has fallen on the jungle and the wild cat comes slinking through the cave entrance in search of prey. There are rats and snakes, too,

ever on the look-out for food.

The Niah Cave is a kind of larder for the Dayak people of the district. The children come a little way into the cave to collect the nestling swifts for cooking. The flesh of the Naked Bat is another delicacy appreciated by the Dayaks and the men catch them by lighting a fire against a rock in the cave at night. When the Naked Bats come home from hunting they are blinded by the light and stunned as they dash themselves against the rock.

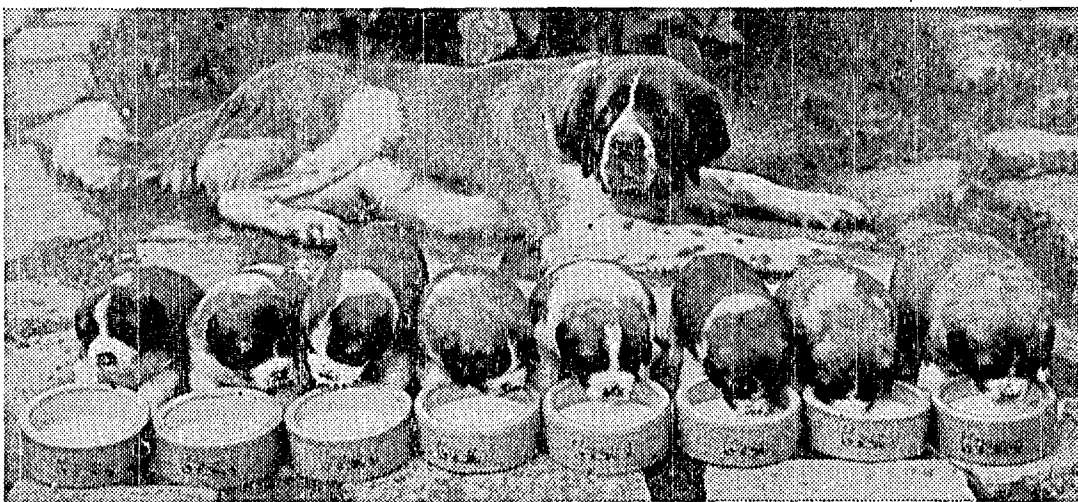
LITTLE DISTURBED

But to the archaeologist the Niah Great Cave is an ideal place for the study of Prehistoric Man. Here the Cave Men of long ago could find shelter from the tropical rain, freedom from tangling plants, and a constant supply of food. Furthermore, the cave seems to have been little disturbed by more recent residents or visitors.

About a quarter of an acre has been excavated down to a depth of six feet, and trial pits have been dug to twelve feet. Helped by Malay and Dayak diggers, the scientists have removed the cave floor, inch by inch, keeping records as they went.

First came signs of the early Metal Age, with iron and bronze implements, glass beads, and some

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ONE GOOD TURN

Five boys from the small Norfolk village of Saxlingham Nethergate have been enjoying a free seaside holiday, and all as the result of volunteering to do a good deed.

Seeing their Vicar working in the churchyard, they offered to lend a hand in clearing up the rubbish. It was probably a bigger job than they thought. It took them three weeks, working in their spare time every evening and on Saturday afternoons as well.

Then it was found that an old fund for the upkeep of the churchyard had some reserves and this paid for a week at the seaside for the five boys.

Day off for Tutbury Jinny

The little two-coach train known as Tutbury Jinny now has Sunday off every week. For 110 years, seven days a week, it has run regularly between Tutbury and Burton-on-Trent. Now, because of the decreasing number of customers, British Railways have decided to run it only six days a week.

Dinner for eight

Rudi, the mother of these hungry St. Bernard pups, is a film star, having given a great performance in *Heart of a Child*. She now has a nursery as well as a career to think about.

FANAIFI FROM SAMOA IN LONDON TOWN

The happy Samoan girl in the photograph is Fanaafi Ma'ia'i, whom we have mentioned before in CN. Fanaafi first went to New Zealand as a schoolgirl with a Government scholarship, went on to Training College, and then returned home to Samoa for two years as a teacher. She then went back to New Zealand to gain an M.A. at Auckland University; now she is continuing her studies at London University.

She has told a CN correspondent that she finds London a fascinating place. She has enjoyed visiting such historic places as the Tower of London—places that she has heard about ever since childhood. But her chief pastime has been going round with a little notebook looking for the blue plaques marking houses where famous people have lived.

TRANSLATOR OF R.L.S.

Fanaafi has a love for English literature which started, actually, from the stories of Robert Louis Stevenson, who spent the last years of his life in Samoa. She has often climbed the mountain behind Apia where he lived, and Treasure Island is among the books she has translated into her own language.

When Fanaafi goes home again to her sunny islands she will be Samoa's most highly qualified teacher, eager to apply modern methods to education there.

People in Samoa love the idea of going to school although they may not learn much; but they like to sit with a teacher, who is often the village pastor, and hear the tales and folk lore of the islands. Theirs is a part of the

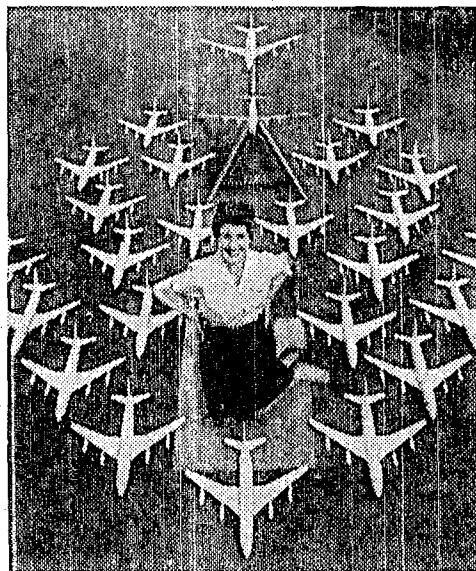
world where life seems easy. No one need go hungry and no one need do much work. The abundant coconut supplies food at home and wealth from abroad.

Fanaafi's father decided to give his family a really modern and useful education. Her brother is training to be a doctor and her younger sister is already a teacher. As she looks at the bright lights



of London, Fanaafi thinks of the day when she will be leaving them all far behind and helping to give Samoan boys and girls as good an education as British children. But she is no less anxious to preserve the old, gracious ways of her native land.

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Models for dollars

A factory at Reading is making models of American aircraft for export to U.S.A. where their price and finish make them keen competitors in the market. The replicas seen here are of the Trans World Airlines' Convair 440, a 100-passenger jetliner, with a TWA air hostess to show them off.

FAMILY PROBLEM OF THE COMMONWEALTH

By the CN Diplomatic Correspondent

THE recent Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference at Montreal spelled out clearly the main lesson of our times. If the world's gravest economic problems can be settled, then most political problems will settle themselves. But as long as there are countries where people exist in stark poverty, short even of the bare necessities of life, there will always be danger of revolution and a consequent threat to world peace.

This is a world problem, for many under-developed countries, especially in the Middle East and Asia, are outside the Commonwealth. Among the ways of helping them are the World Bank, which finances long-term projects, and the International Monetary Fund, concerned with questions arising from the flow of trade between nations.

But, on the human problems involved, the Commonwealth has once again given an important lead. Almost every day one Minister or another had some news of consequence to announce.

WORLD FOOD BANK

For instance, Mr. John Diefenbaker, the Canadian Prime Minister, proposed the creation of a world food "bank." The plan is not entirely new. Some years ago Lord Boyd-Orr popularised it as the "Pharaoh's Dream Plan."

It is based on the Biblical story of Joseph—and the seven fat years followed by seven years of famine.

In these days of the deep-freeze and other forms of refrigeration, there seems no reason why even perishable foods should not be stored by the producer nations for the benefit of others hit by bad weather.

However, this is not as simple as it seems. Big producer countries like Canada, Australia, and South Africa cannot afford to sell off their wheat surpluses as cheaply as the Americans, for instance. But the problem of sharing food with needier nations is now so well recognised that a common-sense way of distributing it should not be hard to find.

Britain was well to the fore at this Montreal conference. The President of the Board of Trade, Sir David Eccles, stressed its main theme, trade expansion,

when he announced that controls will be taken off many goods which Britain obtains from the dollar countries.

Another important move was announced by our Commonwealth Relations Secretary, Lord Home. He proposed to look into ways of improving teacher training and technical training in the Commonwealth, and suggested a Commonwealth education conference. This may be held in London next year.

A thousand new scholarships for teachers and students at schools and universities were offered by Canada. Half of these Britain is ready to finance. This plan, and the various measures to float loans and encourage investment in the poorer Commonwealth areas, all tend to strengthen our "family" ties.

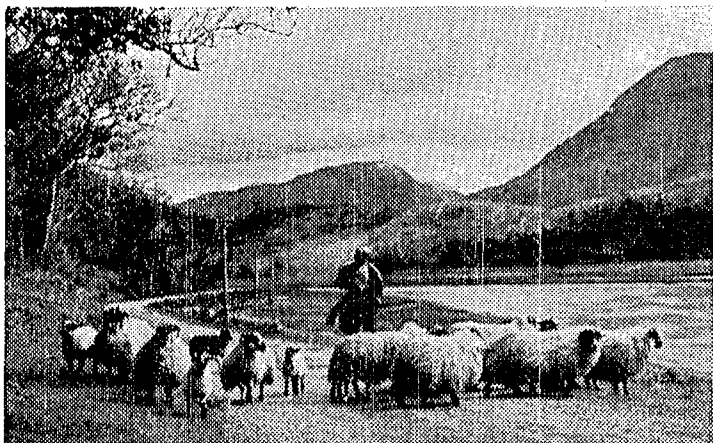
ROUND-THE-WORLD TV

But perhaps the most exciting new phase of co-operation was foreshadowed by an agreement to link every Commonwealth country by long-distance telephone. The project will cost £88,000,000 and take ten years to complete.

The proposed cable, which will link up all the Commonwealth's main towns and cities by phone, will also put us in direct television contact with each other. Eventually we shall be able to see events in New Zealand, say, as we sit by our firesides here.

Finally the conference decided to set up a "Commonwealth House" in London as a centre for all our fellow-citizens overseas. There the Indian official, for example, may consult not merely his English but his Malayan or his Ghanaian counterpart.

This, perhaps more than anything, illustrates the "interdependence" of the British Commonwealth and the special place of the Mother Country.



OUR HOMELAND

Pastoral scene by the shores of Loch Creran in Argyllshire

Great occasion in Liverpool

Next Monday the Liverpool Bluecoat Society of Arts will open a fortnight's celebration of what is often called "The Augustan Age," in England.

This was roughly the first half of the 18th century, the age of Handel's music, the writings of Dr. Johnson, Dean Swift, Defoe, Fielding and Pope; and the paintings of Hogarth and the architecture of William Kent.

Until October 25 there will be concerts, exhibitions, lectures, and poetry readings all dealing with this period of grandeur, elegance, and colourful dress. Pupils from many schools in the area will be attending.

The Bluecoat Society was founded in 1927 to encourage the arts among the people of Merseyside. Its home is in Bluecoat Chambers, built in 1717, and the finest example of the architecture of that time in Liverpool.

FOR A FRIEND OVERSEAS

AN ideal Christmas present for a friend across the seas—one that lasts for a whole year—can be had for £1 6s. 0d. For this sum Children's Newspaper will be sent every week for a year to any address overseas (except Canada, £1 3s. 6d.).

If desired, a special greetings card bearing your own name and address will be sent with the first copy.

PLEASE send your remittance together with full name and address (in block capitals) of the friend to whom the CN is to be sent, to *Subscription Department, Children's Newspaper, The Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4, and we will do the rest.*

GREAT CAVE

Continued from page 1

imported pottery. Below this they came to the layer of the Late Stone or Neolithic Age, with polished stone tools and local pottery. Lower still were cruder neolithic tools and weapons; then the first tools to have ground edges. Beneath these again were tools that were merely flaked and, lowest of all, the earliest attempts at implements, which were just rough, sharp chips of stone.

These were found in the mouth of the cave, which is several hundred feet broad and high, and therefore light and dry. Farther inside, in the growing twilight towards the inner darkness, the cave floor goes uphill and here have been found about 100 human burials, including some for which boats had been used instead of coffins.

The evidence suggests that 40,000 years ago, or more, men lived at the sunny mouth of the cave, bringing up their families in comparative comfort. And behind them, in the shadows, they buried their dead far below the bats gathered together in the darkness.

News from Everywhere

The London Coliseum is to become the home of operetta for eight or nine months every year under a new arrangement between the Arts Council and the Sadler's Wells Trust.

Russia's new atomic-powered icebreaker, Lenin, is expected to be able to move through ice ten feet thick at a speed of two knots.

A bronze statue of the Queen by the Nigerian sculptor, Ben Enwonwu, is on view at the Tate Gallery. Eventually it will stand in front of the House of Representatives at Lagos.

GLASS LIFEBOATS

Twenty lifeboats of glass fibre, each capable of carrying 145 people, will be a feature of the liner Oriana. The new flagship of the Orient Line, Oriana is due to be launched at Barrow-in-Furness in a few months' time.

The world record for an endurance flight in a light aircraft is claimed for two American airmen at Dallas, Texas, after flying continuously for over 50 days in their plane. They refuelled by flying low over a fast-moving lorry and drawing up petrol cans on a rope.

Fifty Chipmunk dual-control training aircraft have been allocated by the R.A.F. for the exclusive use of cadets of the Air Training Corps and of the air sections of school Combined Cadet Forces.

Two young black panthers have arrived at Bristol Zoo. They are the first pair the Zoo has had for 25 years.

Mr. John McNair of East Howdon, Northumberland, who left school when he was 12, has gained his Bachelor of Arts degree at the age of 70. He has been studying for three years at King's College, Newcastle.

Sculptor at work



This figure of Christ is destined for a church at Bushey, Hertfordshire. The sculptor, seen at work in his studio at Ipswich, is John Green, a pupil of Jacob Epstein.

THEY SAY . . .

ANY good librarian will tell you that books will still be living and vigorous when the television set has died and the radio is silent.

Professor Raymond Irwin, of University College London

Too many people live too much in the past. The past must be a springboard, not a sofa.

The Prime Minister

Out and About

IT hardly seemed like autumn in the warm sunshine, though there had been a touch of frost in the night. The deep yellow stars of gorse blossom made patches of brightness on the rough common, which is a mixture of bushes, coarse grass, and heather.

Several larks high overhead welcomed us with their happy singing. On the gentle breeze butterflies kept fluttering, as they passed from one flowery place to another, and among them were the Painted Lady, which had probably come from overseas in

summer, and a few Peacocks, whose hairy black caterpillars feed on nettles.

Among the flowers was that old faithful, the dandelion, still holding up sun-coloured corollas, although they had long since parted with countless "clocks" of floating seeds. Some nettles and a thistle still bore flowers; so did chicory, the scarlet pimpernel, and the dainty harebell. But it was the gorse that attracted most of the bees, and made us think how like a fine summer day it was.

C. D. D.

CAN YOU SPOT THESE DOGS?



START dog spotting right away on the celebrated pink form (L523) which your teacher can obtain in bundles of 50 (together with free chart in full colour identifying 95 breeds) from:—

R. Harvey Johns, Chief Dog Spotter, 10 Seymour St., London, W.1.

Please hand this to your teacher who will appreciate that Dog Spotting is an educational, open air activity sponsored by The National Canine Defence League to encourage kindness to animals.

WATCH FOR NEW CLUB ACTIVITIES

Teacher's Name

Address

DS/CN39

The Children's Newspaper, October 11, 1958

FATHER OF NAIROBI

There is a new clock in the tower of the Nairobi City Hall. It commemorates Thomas Wood, who emigrated to Kenya from Sheffield at the turn of the century, and earned the title of Father of Nairobi.

Mr. Wood was the first European to own a hotel and a shop where everything could be bought—from a pound of sugar to a bag of nails—or a made-to-measure suit, for he employed a tailor. If a customer wanted a cheque changed, Mr. Wood would do this, too, for there was no bank nearer than Mombasa.

Mayor of Nairobi three times, he saw it grow from a small up-country township to a busy thriving city with a population of more than 150,000.

Linked with the loneliest island

A chain of friendship has been forged by correspondence between the 62 schoolchildren of Tristan da Cunha, in the South Atlantic, and Trannack County Primary School at Sithney, Cornwall.

The interchange of letters came about through a talk given to the Trannack scholars by the Vicar of Sithney, whose son is the island's rector.

Almost halfway between Cape Town and Buenos Aires, Tristan is often described as the world's loneliest island.

Help with the Christmas mail

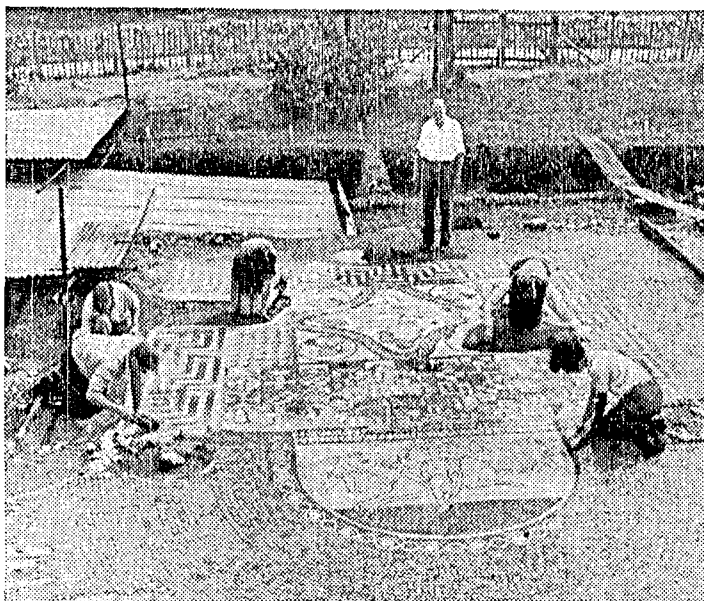
Electronic machines for sorting letters and parcels are now being installed by the G.P.O. in London and in the provinces. The Postmaster-General recently showed them to a group of business men on a visit to the London headquarters at Mount Pleasant.

This should help to speed up the mail at Christmas when the Post Office has its busiest time of the year. On an ordinary working day the Post Office collects, sorts, and delivers some 27 million letters, cards, and parcels, but during the Christmas season this figure quickly rises to 50 million daily, and at its peak to more than 100 million a day.

The letter-sorting machine is known as Elsie (Electronic Letter Sorting Indicator Equipment). With the help of one man, pressing a button, it can sort 3000 letters an hour, four times the rate of hand sorting. The parcel-sorting machine, again with the aid of a man pressing a button, can sort 900 parcels an hour, which is about double the ordinary rate of sorting.

WINDMILL HOME

The last remaining windmill in the Whitby district, on the moors at Ugthorpe, has been converted into a home by a Wakefield man. It has windows on every side with views across many miles of the lonely moors.



From a house of Roman Britain

Young archaeologists helping to clean a fine mosaic floor found during excavation on the site of a Roman-British villa at Lullingstone in Kent.

MODERN FILM STUDIOS

Faith in the future of the cinema has been shown by those responsible for the complete reconstruction of the Shepperton film studios, in Middlesex. The studios were reopened the other day at a cost of over £300,000 and are claimed to be the most modern in the world.

Shepperton is now the biggest film production centre in Britain. Better facilities for television producers have also been made.

Old people's village

On Wednesday, October 15, the Duchess of Kent will visit Plymouth to open the new village of Miles Mitchell, specially built for old folk. It has been named after the late Sir Miles Mitchell, a member of the Sutton Dwellings Trust, sponsors of the project.

The village has 135 single-storey houses, 24 flats, a village hall, a general store, and an estate office. There are also six houses adapted to the needs of disabled people.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND

Among all the services provided by the Royal National Institute for the Blind, there can be little doubt that the production of books takes pride of place. They are at once companions for leisure hours and the means for living fuller lives.

In its latest report, the Institute records that last year its Braille presses printed 53,328 volumes of literature for all tastes, 1165 volumes of music, 481,512 newspapers and periodicals, and 49,002 literature and music pamphlets—a grand total of nearly 600,000 items. The cost amounted to £54,024.

Helped by a selfless band of workers, the Institute maintains a big library of hand-embossed books for students and for other blind men and women anxious to increase their efficiency in their chosen careers. Nearly 1000 volumes, in several languages and covering a wide range of subjects, are added every year.

Cup for a brave boy

Eleven-year-old Michael Clancy of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, recently dived into the River Nene to rescue another boy. Now he has been presented with a silver cup for his bravery.

Dockers who were working close to the scene of the rescue, subscribed to the cup.

WIN A PONY

(or 200 guineas in Premium Bonds)

HEINZ 57

in the

Cowboy's breakfast

COLOURING COMPETITION!

57 other super prizes!

3 age groups! 3 full sets of prizes!

That means 3 ponies and over 170 other prizes to be won in this fascinating, biggest-ever Heinz colouring competition!

You've often dreamed about owning your very own pony. Well, here's your chance to win one—complete with saddle and bridle—(or, if you prefer, 200 guineas in Premium Bonds) in this Heinz competition that's really fun to enter. Or you could win one of the 57 other prizes Heinz are offering in each age group.

Cowboy or cowgirl outfits for the under 11's; wooden presentation boxes of water-colour paints for the 11's and over.

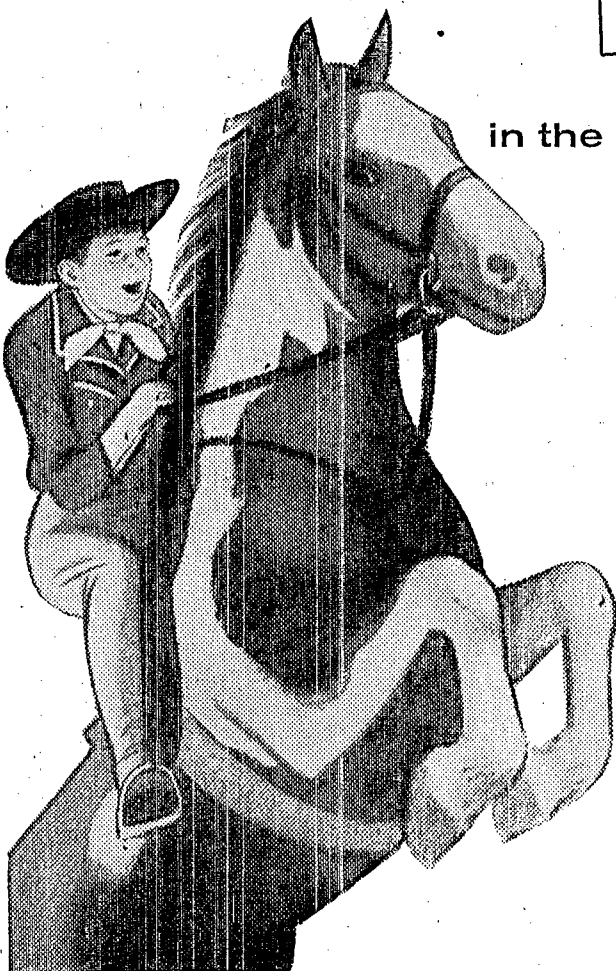
And everyone who enters may send for a painting book that's packed with fascinating information about the Wild West, and camping too!

Winners to appear on TV!

The lucky first-prize winners will receive their ponies during a special transmission on 21st December. Just think! You could appear on TV! All prize-winners will be notified by post by 21st December.

How to enter

The competition is open to all boys and girls under 16. Entries will be judged, and prizes awarded, in three age groups: under 8; 8 to under 11; 11 to under 16. Rules and entry forms may be obtained from your grocer, or failing that, direct from Heinz. All entries must be received by 1st December 1958, so slip along to your nearest grocer and enter right away.



ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES AND PROGRAMMES

TEN YEARS OF QUESTIONS Beetle-crushers NEW PROGRAMME FOR THE JUNIOR MIDDLE-AGED

MANY schoolchildren who tune in to Any Questions? in the Light on Fridays will be specially interested in this week's edition. With Freddie Grisewood in the chair, as always, it is having its tenth birthday broadcast from the Guildhall, Winchester, where the first programme originated on October 12, 1948.

Any Questions?, which has always been a West Region programme, began as a 30-minute item, but was soon increased to 45 minutes. So popular did it become that it was changed from a Regional to a National broadcast, in the Home Service, in January 1950. Later the same year it transferred to the Light Programme.

It is estimated that altogether nearly eight million listeners tune in to the "live" broadcast on Fridays and the recorded repeat in the Home Service on Tuesdays.

Producer Michael Bowen reports that more than 2500 questions have been dealt with since the start, and 250 different people have served on the panel. The birthday panel members are all pioneers—Lady Violet Bonham Carter (began in 1948); Lord Boothby (1949); A. G. Street (1949); and Anthony Wedgwood Benn, M.P. (1951).

Next Monday at 9.45 p.m. there is to be a special Any Questions? scrapbook, with Freddie Grisewood introducing recorded highlights of the past ten years.

"BEETLE-CRUSHER" means a policeman's boot and "bed-presser" a lazy person. Old London slang terms like these are being revived by Ted Willis, author of the Dixon of Dock Green series in BBC Television.

He thinks it is sad that, as he says, "much of the salt and savour is going out of the speech of the everyday Londoner. In the 'Dock Green' series, through the mouths of P.C. George Dixon, Sergeant Flint, and others, I try to revive the old rich phrases and descriptions."

Here are more items from Ted Willis's Cockney vocabulary: "All Chelsea Barracks, to a sentry box" (Heavy Odds); "Send the handle after the hatchet" (Take the Plunge); "Take his bark off" (Take a man down a bit); "Busy as a bee in a treacle pot" (To fuss around).

New sounds in the old Music Hall

DANNY BLOND, the 14-year-old Rock 'n' Roll singer, has a place next Sunday afternoon in the Light Programme feature Duchess Don't Allow. He is to sing a special version of Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, arranged by radio pianist Alan Paul.

Duchess Don't Allow, by Caryl Brahms and Ned Sherrin, is a series of episodes about the fight to keep an ancient music hall on its feet with all kinds of entertainment from old-time variety to modern skiffle. Ivy St. Helier as Duchess, who owns the Music Hall, has different guest artistes every week.

Danny, who is one of them two Sundays running, has been able to sing in tune, so his mother tells me, since he was a tiny tot. He became famous overnight two years ago on ITV's Startime, but has been taking time off since then, working hard at his grammar school in North-West London. Recently Danny shared top prize in English.

Railway Roundabout on radio

RAILWAY ROUNDABOUT, which has been such a success in BBC Children's TV, is to have a sound-radio edition on Children's Hour this Thursday. Like the TV version, it will be introduced by John Adams and Patrick Whitehouse, and will include a Spotters' Notebook.

Two items this week will be recordings made on a journey in a diesel express engine and the sounds of old-time railway whistles.

Initial trouble

SOUTHERN TV is finding that the use of its initials is causing it to be confused with Scottish TV, which opened a year ago and has always called itself STV.

"Please always call us Southern TV," is the urgent plea I have just received from headquarters in Southampton.

A NEW magazine programme for children between the ages of five and eight is to start in BBC Children's Television on October 16.

John Hunter Blair, the producer, tells me he believes this is a pioneer experiment. "We've never before had a show specially for what I call the junior middle-age group," he said.

The title is expected to be Blue Peter, and each edition will last

15 minutes. Most of the items will be short so as to ensure plenty of variety. Round the Toy Shops will be one of the features. Others will deal with dolls and dolls' houses, and also model railways. There will be short stories, too, and cartoon films.

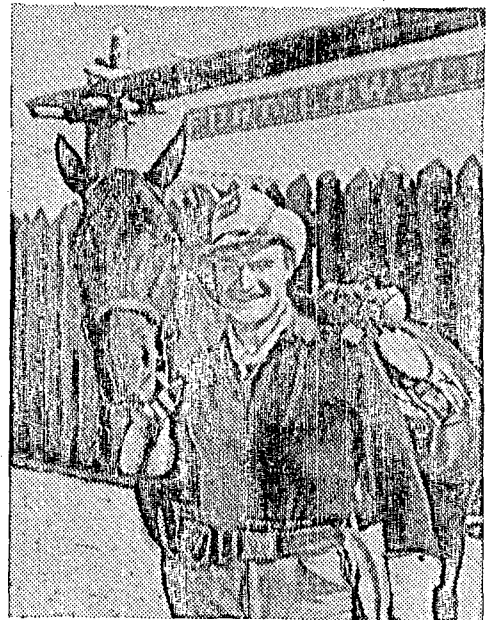
At the time I talked to him, Hunter Blair was still looking out for two comperes—a man and a girl—to see that boys' and girls' interests each get their fair share.

Change for Boots and Saddles

Do not forget that Boots and Saddles, the film story of the American 5th Cavalry on the wild Arizona border in the 1870s, is now being repeated in BBC Children's TV on Thursdays.

These adventures of Captain "Shank" Adams, commander guarding the frontier against Red Indian attacks, were popular with viewers of all ages when televised at 7 p.m. on Saturdays.

Our picture shows Jack Pickard as Captain Adams.



That man with the doves

THOUGH there is plenty of noise in Crackerjack on BBC Children's TV, you may still be able to hear the sound of cooing in this Wednesday's edition. Eamonn Andrews, Pearl Carr and Teddy Johnson, and the other residents, will be joined by Channing Pollock and his doves.

This amazing magician baffles everyone by the way he produces his pet birds out of wooden boxes, and then causes them to vanish again. You will lose count of the number of doves he handles during the act.

There is certainly much more than meets the eye in this act, one of the most wonderful in the whole realm of magic.



Channing Pollock

Four voices better than one

FOUR schoolgirls are taking turns at singing the children's hymn in the Silver Chords programme in the Light at nine o'clock on Sunday mornings.

Conductor Rae Jenkins, looking for a single soloist, auditioned 50 girls. In the end he was so thrilled by four of the voices that he gave up trying to choose. "We must have all four," he said.

The girls are Ann Adams (14) of Barry, Glam.; Susan Twining (13), Ebbw Vale, Mon.; Angela Laramy (14), Crosskeys, near Newport, Mon.; and Caroline Morgan (15) of Pentre, Rhondda.

You can hear Ann Adams singing on Sunday. The others follow Sunday by Sunday in the above order.

At the International Children's School

EVEN the cat, I am told, miaows in five languages at the International Children's School at Fontainebleau, 30 miles south-east of Paris.

In BBC Children's Hour on Saturday we can hear a feature programme covering a typical day at this remarkable establishment. It is run by the French Ministry of Education for children of staff with the Allied Air Forces and other N.A.T.O. organisations stationed in Europe.

Among nearly 800 children are English, French, Germans, Americans, Canadians, Dutch, and a few Belgians, Hungarians, and Turks.

Irish dogs & Siamese cats

GOOD COMPANIONS, in BBC Television, has always been a doggy programme, and in this Wednesday's edition Stanley Dangerfield will be talking about Irish breeds. Wolfhounds, setters, and terriers will be seen, and there will be practical advice about their training and care.

But other pets pop into the picture, too. For instance, the recent Siamese Cat Club Championships will be shown on film, and we shall see several proud owners like the little girl in our picture with her Siamese kittens.



The Children's Newspaper, October 11, 1953

NEW FILMS

LAUGHS GALORE

In the Hebrides and in the Army

AN atomic research station is to be built up in a remote island in the North of Scotland. But the peaceful islanders do not like the idea at all. Why, they argue, should their peaceful little island, where they dream dreams and watch the sun set and apparently do little work, be ruined by such a drab and dangerous piece of modern "civilisation"?

That is the theme of an amusing new British comedy called *Rockets Galore*, which stars Donald Sinden and that charming young actress Jeannie Carson.

SPYING OUT THE LAND

Donald Sinden plays the part of an R.A.F. Squadron-Leader who is sent to the island to spy out the land and lay the plans for the project. He falls in love with Jeannie and the island, but duty is duty and he cannot stop the station being built.

So the islanders themselves take a hand. Even the children go out of their way to sabotage the building of the plant. Materials mysteriously disappear; surveyor's tapes are snipped; everything possible is done to impede progress. But still the islanders are losing the battle until Jeannie Carson hits on a novel plan.

The fact that Donald Sinden's superior officer is a keen bird-watcher suggests to her that public opinion might really be stirred if animal life were endangered.

PINK GULLS

So she finds a harmless pink dye and colours some gulls; before long the word gets round that the island has an amazing new type of pink gull. As Jeannie had guessed, this arouses tremendous public interest. There is a widespread outcry at the thought that the precious new birds might be harmed.

It is argued about on television. The newspapers fiercely take up the topic. And public opinion gains the day.

Written by Sir Compton Mackenzie, *Rockets Galore* is full of fun; and when the fun lags you are always rewarded by the beautiful scenery of the Island of Barra. A very pleasant film.

Jeannie Carson and other villagers in a scene from *Rockets Galore*

CARRY ON SERGEANT is a knock-about British farce about a sergeant whose one ambition, just before retiring from the Army, is to train the champion troop at camp. This is his last chance, so you can imagine his horror when the troop of new recruits arrives and they turn out to be the most stupid, inefficient bunch that could possibly fall to the lot of any sergeant.

The sergeant (William Hartnell) and his corporal (Bill Owen) set out to lick them into shape, but everything goes wrong. Watch the



There's a smile on the faces of William Hartnell and Bill Owen—but it doesn't last long

rookies at drill, or struggling over an assault course, or doing their best at getting the barracks into order!

There are, of course, some very amusing characters: Kenneth Connor, who is convinced he is ill and keeps turning up on sick parade; Bob Monkhouse, who has been called up on the day of his wedding; Terence Longdon, who does not want to be an officer; Eric Barker, the captain, one of those energetic people whose watchword is "Efficiency."

Of course, everything turns out all right in the end. The awkward troop wins the cup—though it is doubtful whether anyone will know how—and the audience gets a lot of laughs.

SHINING HOUR
IN KENT

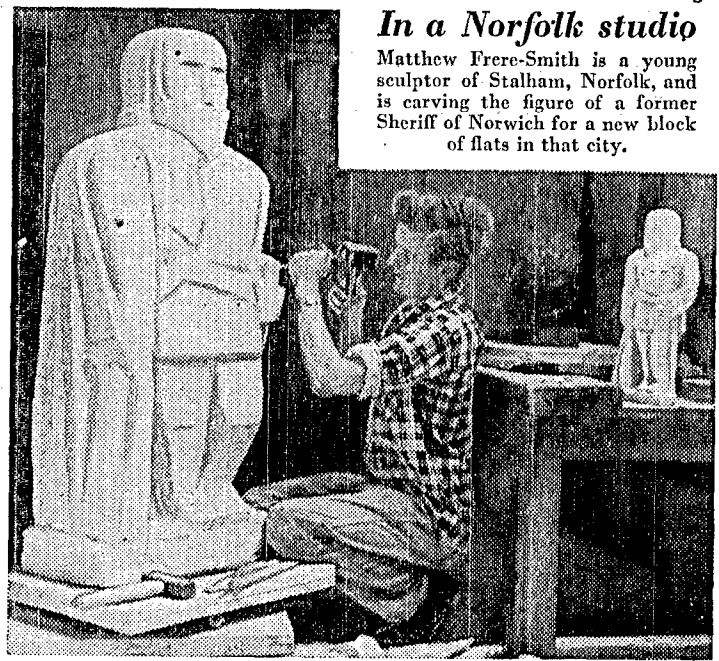
The traditional meeting place of William the Conqueror and the Men of Kent is now marked by a stone memorial, which was recently unveiled on the Dover road at Swanscombe.

The event is described in the earliest known county history, William Lambarde's *Perambulation of Kent*, first published in 1574. On the memorial it is recorded in these words:

"Near this spot in the year 1067 by ancient tradition, Men of Kent, carrying boughs on their shoulders, and swords in their hands, met the invader, William, Duke of Normandy. They offered peace if he would grant their ancient rights and liberties; otherwise war, and that most deadly. Their request was granted and ever since then the motto of Kent has been *Invicta*, meaning unconquered."

The Swanscombe memorial, which is seven feet high and seven feet long, shows Norman and Saxon soldiers facing each other, the Saxons holding branches over their heads.

On top of the memorial is the rampant horse coat of arms with the motto, *Invicta*, below it. The monument was erected by the Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men, and was unveiled by Lord Cornwallis, Lord Lieutenant of the county.



In a Norfolk studio

Matthew Frere-Smith is a young sculptor of Stalham, Norfolk, and is carving the figure of a former Sheriff of Norwich for a new block of flats in that city.

BIRDS OF THE EAST WIND

Owing to easterly winds bird observatories on the east coast have recently been visited by several interesting birds on their autumn journeys homeward.

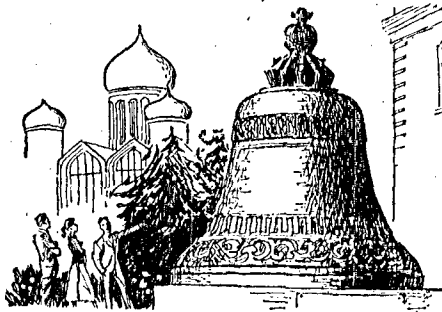
Cley on the Norfolk coast has been favoured by a rustic bunting, several bluethroats, some icterine warblers, a hoopoe and no less than sixteen wrynecks. The wryneck has also visited Teesmouth, although, outside the migration season, it is a woodland bird.

On the edge of Manchester, the wood-sandpiper, a more speckly

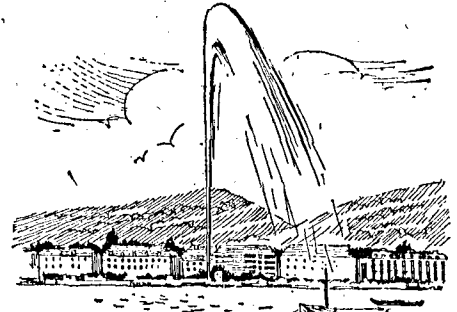
and scarcer relative of the green sandpiper, spent several weeks in August and September at Sinderland Sewage Farm, near Altrincham, much to the delight of bird-watchers. It nests in the marshy woods of northern Europe.

In Lancashire a marsh-harrier has lived most of the summer and autumn near Silverdale, and garganey duck and black terns have visited the "flashes" at Astley, near Manchester. These flashes are ponds caused by the sinking of land above mines. E. H.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST...?



1. BELL IN THE WORLD?



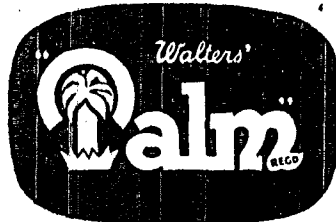
2. FOUNTAIN IN THE WORLD?



3. AFRICAN MOUNTAIN?

ANSWERS
BELOW.

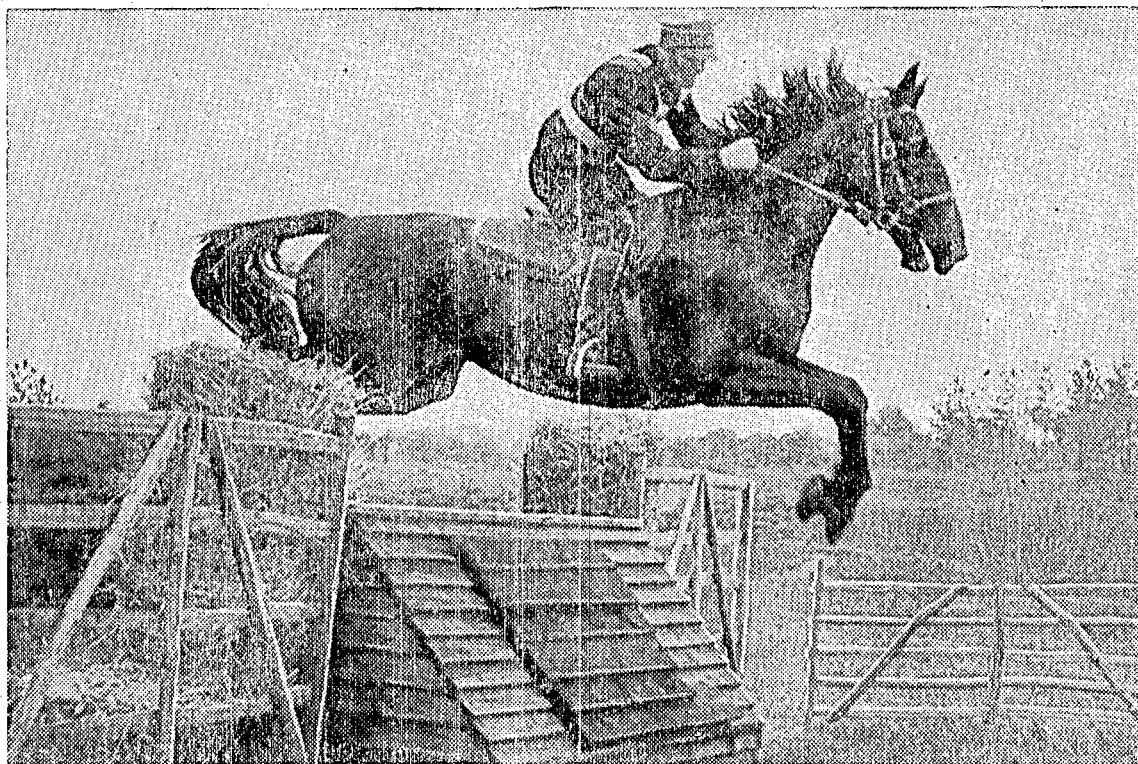
AND NOW - WHAT IS THE BIGGEST
VALUE IN TOFFEE? THAT'S EASY -

3rd TOFFEE BARS

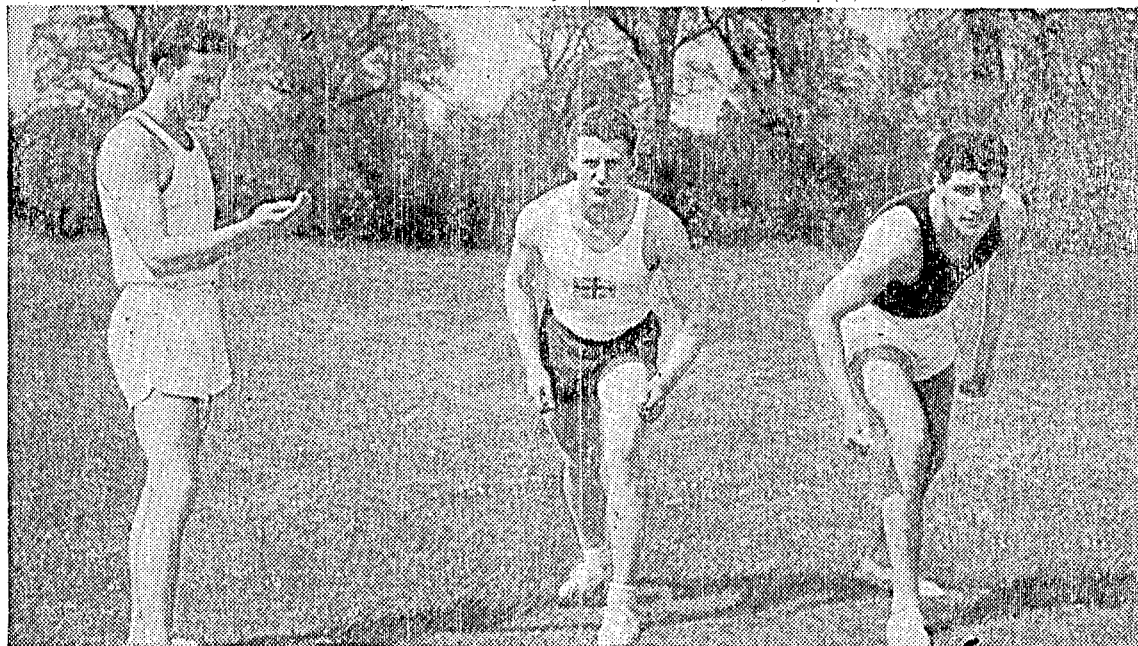
7 Delicious Flavours—Fruit & Nut, Creamy, Strawberry Split, Chocolate Nougat, Banana Split, Liquorice Nougat, Treacle Sandwich.

1. Tsar Kokokol: weighs 193 tons, is 22 feet 8 inches in diameter.
2. Jet d'eau de la Roche, Geneva, water thrown 426 feet high.
3. Kilimanjaro, 19,325 feet.

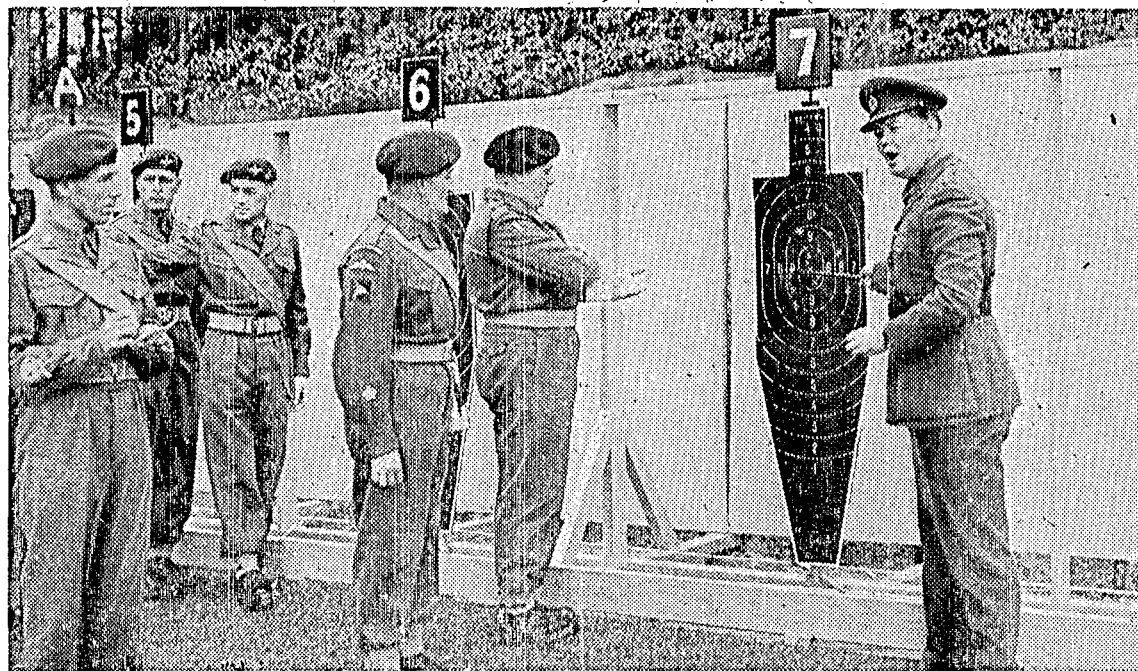
THE WORLD'S GREAT ALL-ROUNDE



A Royal Marine clearing an obstacle in fine style during the recent Combined Services championships



Two members of the Army team are timed by their captain as they set off on a cross-country run



An official calls out the scores as he examines a target during the pistol-shooting competition

Next week the leading all-round athletes of 15 countries will be gathered near Aldershot to take part in the World Modern Pentathlon Championships, which are being held in Britain for the first time in ten years. A CN Correspondent here gives a background picture of this little-known sporting event.

ONCE every four years the young men of Ancient Greece assembled in the valley of Olympia to take part in the Olympic Games. The cream of Greek athletes, they came from far and wide to strive for a laurel wreath, the crown of success awarded to the winner of each event. A hero's reception awaited each victor, but the greatest acclaim, the greatest honour, was reserved for the supreme champion—the man who won the Pentathlon.

As its name indicates, the Pentathlon is a contest of five events. In Ancient Greece it was confined to wrestling, long jumping, running, discus and javelin throwing; and the man who triumphed was worthy to be called the country's finest all-round athlete.

The last of these Olympic Games were held in A.D. 394, and not until 1896 were they revived, appropriately enough in Athens. At first the Pentathlon had no part in modern Olympics; only in 1912 was the contest seen again, and then two Pentathlons were introduced into the programme—the classical contest and a modern version.

THROUGH ENEMY COUNTRY

The modern Pentathlon also comprises five events, and is also a test of all-round sporting prowess. But instead of being a test for athletes only, it was decided to bring in other activities; to base the contest, in fact, on the hazards faced by a courier of, say, 100 years ago while travelling through enemy country to deliver an important message.

Such a courier would have to travel in a direct line as fast as possible, so he used a horse. If he were thrown or his horse went lame, then he would have to race across country on foot. He could not use bridges, for they would be guarded; so he had to be a good swimmer. He might have to defend himself; so he had to be an expert with both sword and pistol.

Thus we have the events which make up the Modern Pentathlon: riding of a winding course of 2500 metres, negotiating numerous obstacles; running 4000 metres across country; swimming 300 metres; fencing with an épée; and shooting with a pistol at 25 metres. All these events must take place within five days.

TEAMS FROM THE SERVICES

At first the new competition was slow to gain popularity. (The British Modern Pentathlon Association was not formed until 1922). It was obviously impossible to stage all the tests in any one arena, where they could be watched by a big audience; and the facilities required for constant practice in five events virtually precluded the average sportsman from taking part. It is for this reason that the Services have always provided Britain's teams.

The President of the British Modern Pentathlon Association incidentally, is Lt. General Sir Brian Horrocks, who himself won the British championships in 1924 and represented his country in the Olympics of that year.

This year the tradition of Service teams will be continued, the British trio being Sergeant Cobley of the R.A.F.; Corporal of Horse Tom Hudson, Royal Horse Guards; and Lieutenant Patrick Harvey of the Royal Tank Regiment.

BRITAIN'S REPRESENTATIVES

Sergeant Cobley has been in the British Pentathlon team for the past five years. In the 1956 Olympics he won the running event; and last year he was sixth out of the 38 in the individual championships.

Lieutenant Harvey, who took to the Pentathlon because he was good at swimming and running, is now the team's leading pistol shot.

Tom Hudson, although only 22, has been a pentathlete for five years, and in next week's championships he will be representing his country for the third time. A very strong swimmer—he has been chosen for Yorkshire at both swimming and water polo—he is now regarded as Britain's leading all-rounder. He recently won the Combined Services Championships for the second consecutive year.

Any one of these three will do well to finish in the first half-dozen of the 45 competitors representing their country next week, and it is as a team rather than as individuals that the entrants have the best chance of success.

RUSSIAN CHALLENGE

For many years Sweden dominated the Pentathlon Championships. Last year, however, Russians filled all three first places in the individual championships and, of course, easily won the team title. The Russians are again expected to be well to the fore next week, for the winning trio of last year will be representing their country at Aldershot. But it is difficult to make comparisons with previous championships, for the world title is contested in a different country every year and, of course, under different conditions.

In winning the American title a few months ago Lieutenant Jack Daniels earned 4669 points. Yet eight months earlier he scored only 4141 points in the Stockholm world championships, a total which gave him ninth place.

Sergeant Cobley, on the other hand, came sixth at Stockholm with 4250 points, yet his 4555 points in the recent British Services championships carried him only into second position.

Points are awarded in running, riding, and swimming according to the time a performer takes, to

October 11, 1958

RS - MEET IN BRITAIN



Four of Britain's leading all-rounders take up the lunge position while training for next week's world championships.



Phoning results to the judges during the horse-riding event.

complete the course, a standard time worth 1000 points being set.

In the riding event a competitor completing the course in exactly the standard time earns 1000 marks; for every second less he receives two bonus points, for every second more, two penalty points. A rider also drops points for a fall or if his mount refuses.

Riders are allowed to walk over the course to study it before the event, but they do not meet the horse they are to ride until actually about to start the test. The horses are chosen by ballot, and although every effort is made to select horses of equal ability there is obviously a degree of luck in this event.

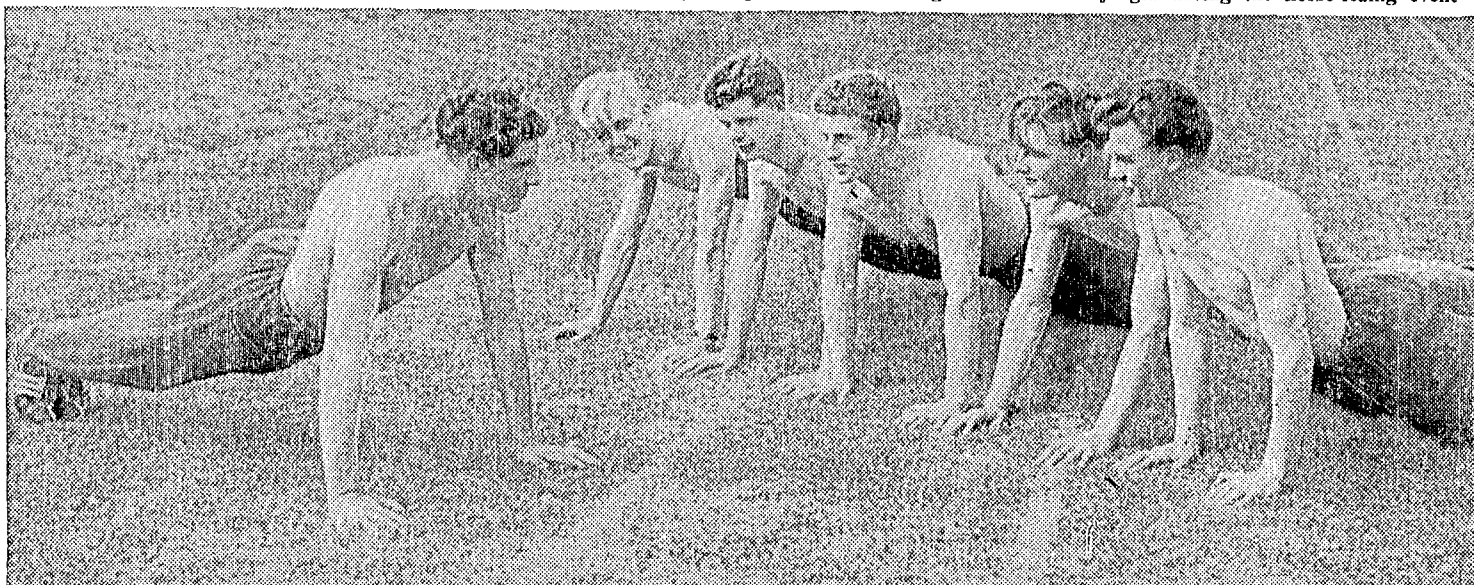
The 4000-metre running race has a standard time of 15 minutes; and the swimming race four minutes.

In the fencing every entrant must meet all the others, a single hit deciding the bout. "Electrical" épées are used, each hit being automatically registered on the recording apparatus.

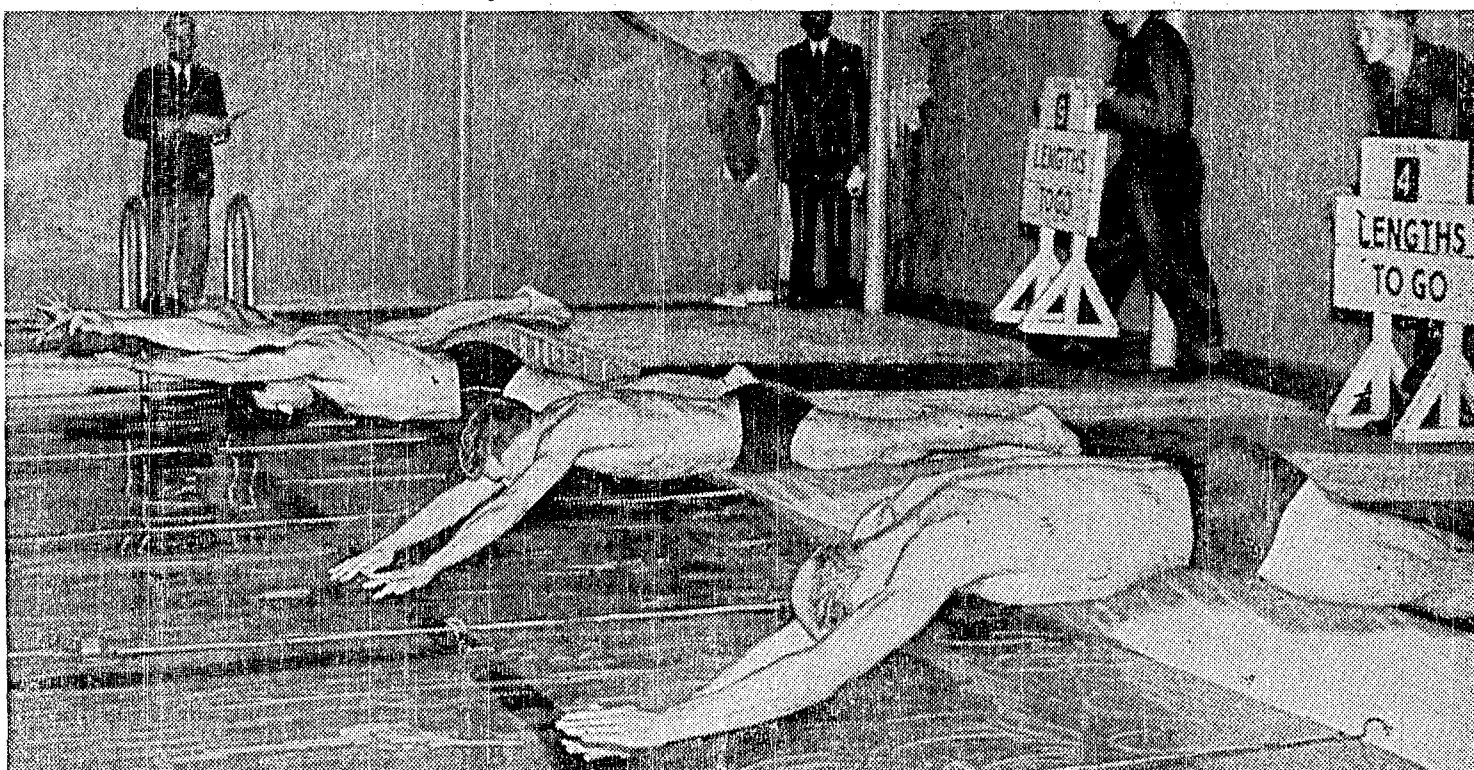
TEST OF NERVES

The pistol-shooting is a test of nerves as well as accuracy, for the issue is decided mainly on the number of hits on the target; 20 rounds are fired, but a single shot off the target can lose many points. Incidentally, in international pistol-shooting events commands are given in French, and at last month's Services Championships the orders were given in this language. When a man has only three seconds in which to take aim and fire it is obviously essential for him to understand each order perfectly clearly.

Britain has never won the world title, but at last year's meeting at Stockholm our trio won the massive trophy presented by Russia for the most improved team of the meeting. Next week the British team are hoping to improve still further—and to carry off the main trophy.



Absolute fitness is needed for the Pentathlon. Corporal of Horse Tom Hudson, Britain's leading pentathlete, is here seen training a Household Cavalry squad.



Off to a fine start in the 300 metres swimming race. The standard time for this distance is four minutes, anything less earning bonus marks.

TAKING CARE OF YOUR PETS

15. The Hedgehog

By Charles Trevisick, F.Z.S.

THE kindest way of keeping hedgehogs is to let them have the run of a well-fenced garden. Give them complete freedom, and you will usually find that in the evening they will come back to one special place to eat and drink. A bowl of bread and milk is their favourite diet, but they also like a little chopped raw meat.

Being semi-nocturnal, they are mostly awake at night. It is then that they set off on little hunting expeditions, to catch worms and caterpillars, beetles, and various

way they can be sprinkled occasionally with an insect powder, for they are very verminous. The spiny jacket which is their protective armour against bigger animals provides accommodation for a big population of parasites. Take special care to keep the powder away from their eyes.

In the winter hedgehogs hibernate; that is, take to their bed and stay there rolled up in a ball until the warmer weather comes. So, having made sure that their next nestbox is protected from frost, you should then leave them undisturbed.

If you have any special problem concerning your hedgehog, or any other pet, please send it to me at Ilfracombe Zoo Park, Ilfracombe,

North Devon.

(And will you please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope for your reply.)

SANCTUARY FOR DEER

Epping Forest, on the eastern outskirts of London, is to have a deer reserve.

Several main roads run through this beautiful woodland and, with the steady increase in traffic, it has become more and more desirable to provide the deer with a sanctuary, safe and quiet.

The reserve, not accessible to the public, will consist of 114 acres of enclosed farmland and woods adjoining the forest.

Epping Forest, of approximately 6800 acres, was secured for the use of the public by the Corporation of the City of London and opened by Queen Victoria in 1882.



other insects. They also eat mice and in the countryside will often tackle small snakes and young rats.

Hedgehogs generally sleep in the same place each day; they like a dry, cosy place where they can rest in complete comfort, and if at first they are regularly placed in a box well filled with bracken or dried leaves, they will make this their permanent quarters.

The best way to move these prickly creatures is to pick them up gently in a dust-pan. In this

Big Bulldozer comes ashore

This 400-h.p. bulldozer from the U.S. was landed recently at the Surrey Docks, in London for work in Camberley, Surrey. It weighs three tons.



Cannock Chase to be preserved

Cannock Chase is the latest corner of Britain to be preserved as an area of outstanding natural beauty. Consisting of about 25 miles of moorland in the southern half of Staffordshire, it is a fragment of what was once a vast forest. In medieval times Cannock Chase was the hunting-ground of kings, the refuge of outlaws, and the haunt of wolves. Now it is an attractive expanse of open countryside with valleys and birch woods and hills crowned with pines.

This is the sixth area in England and Wales to be preserved for its natural beauty. The others are the Surrey Hills, the Quantock Hills, the Northumberland Coast, and the Gower and Llyn peninsulas in Wales.

ROMAN VILLA FOUND IN HERTFORDSHIRE

Excavating at Gorbunbury, near St. Albans, Hertfordshire, amateur archaeologists have uncovered the remains of a Roman villa. It stands near to the site of Verulamium, once the second largest city of Roman Britain.

A number of other finds were made, including two central heating chambers and a cellar which seemed to have been deliberately filled with fragments of painted plaster, and pieces of mosaic.

STRANGE CREATURES OF A VAST UNDERWORLD

Nearly three-quarters of the Earth's surface is covered by water—by lakes and seas and oceans many miles deep. It is a vast area, little known as yet despite modern exploration, and it is inhabited by strange and formidable creatures of which films and television have given us fascinating glimpses. Those who wish to learn more about this "underworld" and its teeming life would do well to read Arthur Constance's new book: *The Impenetrable Sea* (Oldbourne Press, 16s.).

TWO MILES DOWN

In the first chapter the author tells something of what the French explorers Houot and Willm saw in 1954 when they descended in their bathyscaphe to a depth of two miles; enormous sharks, for instance, quite unlike any on the surface, and "a queer animal that looked like an enormous flower . . . a plant-animal about a foot wide, spreading its leaf-like arms and swaying gently in the current."

But there are plenty of odd creatures nearer the surface, and in a later chapter Mr. Constance writes of the queer globe fish, a kind of sea-going hedgehog which can blow itself out until it resembles a football with spikes.

It has teeth as sharp as a rat's, and if swallowed whole by a shark, can bite its way to freedom.

Another strange surface-dweller is the Sargassum fish that lives in the floating masses of weed in the Sargasso Sea. Camouflaged like a bunch of seaweed, it crawls through the undergrowth on crab-like fins, stalking its prey.

No less strange are the clownish mud-skippers, the fish that ventures ashore and will climb trees.

These fish have comically pugnacious expressions, but if startled, "off they go, each making its own hop, skip, and jump across the mud, or perhaps leaping onto the water and skimming across it like a flat pebble thrown by a school-boy."

Many other forms of ocean life, from the mighty sperm whale to the microscopic plankton, are dealt with in this book, which also gives fascinating details about winds, currents, and underwater exploration.

FIRST BELL HEARD BY NELSON

A 300-year-old bell has been restored and re-hung in the church at Burnham Thorpe, Norfolk. Horatio Nelson was born in this village just 200 years ago, and the bell must have been the first he ever heard.

HEREWARD THE WAKE—picture-version of Charles Kingsley's tale of Saxon England (1)

Hereward the Wake, hero of English resistance to the Normans, was born in the first half of the eleventh century. According to legend he was the son of Earl Leofric and

lived at Bourne, Lincolnshire. As a young man of 18 Hereward had an encounter in the Fenland near his home with a monk who had once done him an injury. He and

his young companions treated the man roughly and robbed him. Edward the Confessor, heard of this incident, and as a result Hereward was outlawed.



Hereward went first to Peterborough Abbey to call on his Uncle Brand, the Prior. The old man had a soft spot in his heart for his wayward nephew, and rejoiced when Hereward handed over twice the sum he had taken from the monk. Begging his uncle to do him a good deed in return—to see that his young companions were not punished for his own misdeeds—Hereward then rode away, eager for a life of adventure.



Soon afterwards Hereward was overtaken by Martin Lightfoot, who served in Leofric's household. He was a man of mystery. Though a servant, he could read and write and even understand Latin, and because of this many people thought he was a runaway monk. However, Martin now declared that he wanted to share Hereward's adventures. They decided to go north, where King Edward had little authority.



Arriving in south-east Scotland, they were invited to enter the service of Gilbert of Ghent, a powerful Flemish nobleman who had settled there, and knew Hereward's father. The young outlaw rapidly became a popular retainer at the castle, charming everyone by his singing and skill in playing the harp. But, still longing for adventure, he soon grew tired of such an uneventful existence.



A captive polar bear, then a great rarity in Britain, was kept in a cage at the castle. Thought to have magic powers, it was called the "fairy bear." Everyone had a superstitious dread of it. One day it escaped into the courtyard, and all the knights and ladies fled indoors. But a little girl named Alfruda got left behind and was just about to be attacked by the bear when Hereward returned from hunting.

This is Hereward's chance to prove his mettle. See next week's instalment



Grand new story about the boys of Linbury Court

JENNINGS, AS USUAL

by Anthony Buckeridge

Jennings draws an unflattering cartoon of Mr. Wilkins in his geography notebook. The book is inadvertently collected by the master, and after considerable anxiety Jennings retrieves it, only to find that Mr. Wilkins was in possession of the wrong notebook.

18. Plans and problems

A FEELING of joyful relief swept over Jennings as he trotted back along the corridor after taking his geography book to Mr. Wilkins. The alarms and excursions of the previous evening—to say nothing of the nerve-racking ordeal he had just endured in the staff room—had left him feeling somewhat low in spirits. But now that the matter of the Assistant Master-piece had been settled to everyone's satisfaction, he felt he could again turn his attention to more important matters—the decorations for the Christmas party, for instance.

Enthusiasm

From the moment that he had suggested festooning the Common Room with paper chains, the idea had been taken up with enthusiasm by the members of Form III. During the past week the writhing coils of coloured paper had been growing longer and longer; so that it was becoming more and more difficult to cram the home-made decorations into the Common Room lockers, where they had to be stored until the day of the party. Something would have to be done about it, Jennings decided, as he joined the queue of boys waiting to go into the dining hall for breakfast: if the preparations were allowed to continue unchecked the project would soon be completely out of hand.

Subject dismissed

At the tail end of the queue, Jennings found Darbshire hopping from foot to foot in nervous apprehension.

"What happened, Jen? Did you get your book back? Did Sir come in and catch you?" he twittered.

Jennings nodded. "Yes, he did; but it didn't matter after all. Bromo gave in my old book by mistake, so Old Wilkie couldn't have seen my drawing, anyway."

"Phew! Thank goodness for that!" Darbshire fanned himself and sagged at the knees with exaggerated relief.

"That's all settled now." Jennings dismissed the subject with a wave of his hand. "What's worrying me at the moment is this business of decorating the Common Room. I should think we must have made at least half-a-mile of paper chains already."

"It's a pity we've got to stop making any more," Darbshire remarked. "I was hoping to do a rather artistic fringe to hang round the lampshade."

"Well, just do that and then stop," Jennings suggested.

"I can't. I've scrounged through all the waste-paper baskets and there just isn't any more paper anywhere."

As usual, Jennings was able to recommend a way out of the difficulty. "You could use my old geog. book for that—the one Sir's just given me back," he offered.

"Don't you want it?" Darbshire queried hopefully.

"No, not really. It's bung full of old notes and stuff that I probably shan't want any more, so

"You'd better do something about it pretty quickly," Venables advised. "I know what I'd do if it was mine. I'd march into the staff room and ask for it straight out. I'd soon show you I wasn't frightened of Old Wilkie."

Jennings was somewhat sceptical of this advice. It was all very well for Venables to talk of braving Mr. Wilkins' wrath in this easy fashion: but, then, it wasn't *his* penknife! Perhaps the wiser course would be to make his request at a time when the master was likely to be in a favourable frame of mind.

"I'll go after lunch," he decided. "It's that rather decent sponge pudding today, so there's a chance he'll be in a good mood by then."

Missing pen

Unfortunately, Mr. Wilkins was not in a good mood during the hour after lunch. And when Mr. Carter entered the staff room to collect Form III's reports, he found his colleague searching through the table drawer in a state of mounting frustration.

"It's no good, Carter. I haven't even started those reports yet—let alone finished them," Mr. Wilkins said irritably. "A most unfortunate thing's happened. I can't find my fountain pen anywhere."

"You couldn't have chosen a worse moment to lose it," was Mr. Carter's comment as he perched himself on the corner of the table. "The Head wants those reports as soon as possible."

"I can't think where on earth the thing's got to," Mr. Wilkins went on, scattering the contents of the drawer from side to side and spilling the overflow on to the hearthrug. "I've looked everywhere. I know I had it when I checked the stationery cupboard yesterday morning, but since then it's completely disappeared."

There was, indeed, some reason for Mr. Wilkins' annoyance, for with so much work waiting to be done he could ill afford to waste time searching for missing possessions. And the prospect of having to complete his reports with a borrowed pen did not appeal to him in the least.

Sudden hope

Thus, in spite of Jennings' fond hope that a generous portion of sponge pudding would soften Mr. Wilkins' heart, it must be admitted that the master was not in the best of tempers when the boy knocked at the door a few minutes later.

"Sir, please, sir, may I speak to Mr. Wilkins?" he asked when Mr. Carter opened the door.

"I very much doubt it. Mr.

Wilkins is very busy at the moment," Mr. Carter replied. "He's—er—he's looking for his fountain pen."

"Is he, sir? D'you mean the red one with two gold bands round the cap?"

Mr. Wilkins looked round in sudden hope. The accurate description suggested that Jennings knew the whereabouts of the missing object.

"Yes, that's the one! Have you seen it?" he asked eagerly.

"Oh, yes, sir."

"Thank goodness for that. Where is it, then?"

"Oh, I don't know where it is now, sir," Jennings explained. "But I've seen it simply hundreds of times—in class and in your pocket, and places like that."

"Tut, tut, tut!" Mr. Wilkins turned away with a gesture of helpless despair.

"But if you can't find your pen, sir, you can borrow mine instead," Jennings went on. "I should be only too pleased to lend it to you, honestly, sir."

Mr. Wilkins shuddered at the generous offer. The last time he had seen Jennings using a pen, the implement had consisted of two inches of well-chewed penholder wired on to a crossed nib which clicked like a turnstile and sent a spray of ink all over the paper. Politely but firmly he declined the loan.

"I was only trying to do you a favour, sir," the boy persisted. "Because I was rather hoping you'd do me one back, sir."

"I've no time for favours," Mr.

Wilkins retorted. "Can't you see I'm busy?"

Jennings made a last determined effort to broach the subject of his visit. "It wouldn't take you a minute, honestly, sir," he pleaded. "I was only wondering if you'd very kindly give me back my penknife that you confiscated, sir."

A frown of disapproval settled on Mr. Wilkins' brow. In point of fact, he had every intention of returning the confiscated property before the boys dispersed for the holidays. At the same time, he was certainly not going to put himself out at the whim of an eleven-year-old Third Former. He would return the penknife when it suited him, and not before.

Aggrieved protest

"For goodness' sake, boy, don't come bothering me with stupid nonsense about penknives when I've got more important things to think about," Mr. Wilkins pointed to the door. "Out!" he barked.

As he closed the staff room door behind him, Jennings puffed out his cheeks in aggrieved protest. Why couldn't Old Wilkie be decent considering it was nearly the end of term? From the way he had spoken, it didn't sound as though he meant to give the penknife back at all! Such a tragedy must be prevented at all costs, the boy told himself as he made his way back to the Common Room... Somehow or other a way must be found of melting Mr. Wilkins' hard heart before it was too late.

To be continued

Jennings

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WHO'S WHO AT THE ZOO**One Lizard, two tails**

A COMMON lizard, only four inches long, is stealing the limelight from its larger neighbours at the Zoo reptile house. It is attracting the attention of visitors because it has two tails.

"The lizard was caught in North London by a schoolgirl, Christine Nosworthy of Edgware," a Zoo official told me. "It is the first double-tailed lizard we have had on show for a number of years. The peculiarity is one to which lizards seem particularly prone. What happens is that the wearer, probably involved in some accident, nearly, but not quite, breaks off its original tail. Before long, a new tail begins to sprout from the injured place and continues growing alongside the old one, which by this time has healed up and is also growing again.

"Whether the wearing of a double tail is a handicap to the animal is a moot point. In general, it must tend to slow down the lizard's movements and, in that way, exposes it more certainly to its enemies. However," added the official, "this specimen will be taken good care of and should interest our visitors for some time to come, although generally these common lizards seldom survive for more than a year or so in captivity."

"Marksman" that never misses

ANOTHER interesting newcomer at the reptile house is a gift from a schoolboy, John Simper of Boreham Wood, Herts. This is a North African "basilisk" chameleon, of which the Zoo has not had an example since 1928.

This chameleon has a tremendous appetite for flies and cockroaches, and the young donor was wise to pass it on to the Zoo, which never runs out of these insects, however cold the winter may be. It is kept in a warm enclosure at the reptile house, where it spends much of its time ambling about on a plant stalk, snicking off its prey with its long, sticky, club-shaped tongue.

What astonishes most visitors is the creature's amazing accuracy of aim. So far, it does not seem to have missed a single "shot." There may be no more expression in its eyes than in a green pea

with a dot of ink upon it. But, as an accurate focusser, the minute swivel optic is superb. Any victim on whom it fastens is doomed to prompt extinction. This exhibit should be very popular, for it is an excellent colour-changer; it does not seem to mind, either, how much it is handled, so that visitors should be able to have it out of its cage frequently.

Deadly bite of the Black Death

A SNAKE which reptile-house keepers have long referred to as "the Black Death" has died of old age. It was an eight-foot Black Mamba, and certainly one of the deadliest inmates of the reptile house.

"The Black Death was caught for us in Tanganyika four years ago by a game warden," Overseer R. A. Lanworn told me. "In fact, he caught two of these snakes, and they had been living here together. Although extremely venomous—the Black Death was reputed to have killed two Africans before being caught—they lived harmoniously and never quarrelled over the freshly-killed mice and rats which we regularly placed in their cage.

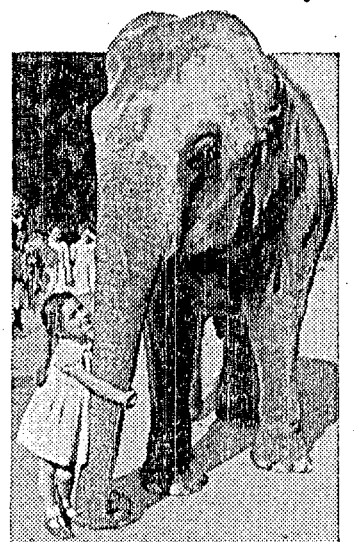
"But they have always been tricky snakes to look after. They strike with lightning speed—biting, releasing, and biting again—injecting venom at every bite, and very great care was needed when introducing food into the den. The one that has just died was particularly 'quick on the draw,' and on occasion would attack even inanimate objects. Once when we inserted a hosepipe into the den, to refill the pond, the 'Black Death' struck at it again and again with extraordinary ferocity, until he had to stop through sheer exhaustion."

Ocean waif from the Regent's Canal

A BIRD rarely seen at the Zoo is yet another new arrival. This is a Manx shearwater, a gift from Mr. John Roberts, of St. John's Wood, London.

"Mr. Roberts found this shearwater on (of all places!) the Regent's Canal, not far from the Zoo," an official told me. "Evidently the bird had lost its way

while on migration. Seeing that it was plainly an unusual species, and in some difficulties, Mr. Roberts picked it up, fearing that if he left it to its own resources, some cat might get it. We examined the shearwater and found it to be quite fit, apart from its exhaustion. Shearwaters, though small, are in fact powerful flyers

At home with Rusty

A big hug for big Rusty, of London Zoo, comes from Anne Simmonds, a four-year-old from Portsmouth.

and cover surprising distances on their migratory flights. We have a record of one covering as much as 600 miles in a few days."

Tired kestrel

ANOTHER interesting "ocean waif" to come in recently is a kestrel. This bird is a gift from Mr. E. H. Burke, of West Hampstead, who came by it in an unusual way. "Mr. Burke was on his way home by sea from Newfoundland," Mr. John Yealland, curator of birds, told me. "When the vessel was about 500 miles from the Azores, the kestrel alighted exhausted on the deck. Mr. Burke promptly consulted the ship's carpenter and got him to rig up a temporary cage.

"Probably the bird had been blown out to sea by stormy weather," said Mr. Yealland. "But at the moment we do not know the exact variety to which it belongs. It is probably a subspecies local to Canada or North America."

CRAVEN HILL

PRIZES FOR CN READERS

Congratulations to the following winners of CN Competition No. 8, each of whom has been awarded a Table-Tennis Set: Judith Andrews, Ormskirck; Patricia Bullock, Stanmore; Susan Burns, Ruislip; Mary Comber, Shrewsbury; Josephine Fenner, London, S.W.11; Kay Ryan, London, S.W.1; Trevor Taylor, Faversham; Arthur Tuppen, Beccles; Gennifer Vogan, Bexleyheath; and Anne West, London, E.17.

SOLUTION: 1. Constable; 2. Monet; 3. Whistler; 4. Turner; 5. Van Dyck; 6. Picasso.

JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in *italics*. To answer five or six correctly is very good.

Answers on page 11

- I play *percussion* instruments.
A—Drums and cymbals.
B—Horns and trumpets.
C—Violin and cello.
- The arrangements are *flexible*.
A—Finally settled.
B—Easily altered.
C—Hopelessly muddled.
- This will be a *memento*.
A—Famous occasion.
B—Short space of time.
C—Something for a reminder.
- A *censorious* letter has been sent.
A—Making a complaint.
B—Giving facts and figures.
C—Fit to be banned.
- Try not to be *morose*.
A—Expecting too much.
B—Slow to understand.
C—Sulky and miserable.
- Good *deportment* is an advantage.
A—A pretty face.
B—Tidy organisation.
C—A poised bearing.

PUZZLE PARADE

SHORT DIVISION

CAN you divide three shillings between two mothers and two daughters so that each gets one shilling?

MISSING VOWELS

By filling in the missing vowels you will form the names of seven Red Indian tribes.

XRQXXXS, HXRXXN, CRXX,
DXLXWXX, CHXRKXX,
NXVXXH, CHXYXNNX.

MISSING FOUR



ALL except four letters of the alphabet are jumbled up here. Find the four missing letters, which can be arranged to form the name of a cathedral town in England.

C N Competition Corner

20 BOOK TOKENS TO WIN!

Do you know the colours of the Italian, Dutch, Czechoslovakian, and Swedish national flags pictured below? When you have found out, you can try for one of the half-guinea Book Tokens we are offering to each of twenty winners of our latest Colouring Competition. All C N readers under 17 living in Great Britain, Ireland, and the Channel Islands are invited to enter—free!

To enter, first cut out this picture round the broken line and paste it on a postcard; then, when quite dry, colour the flags as accurately as possible, using either water-paints or crayons.

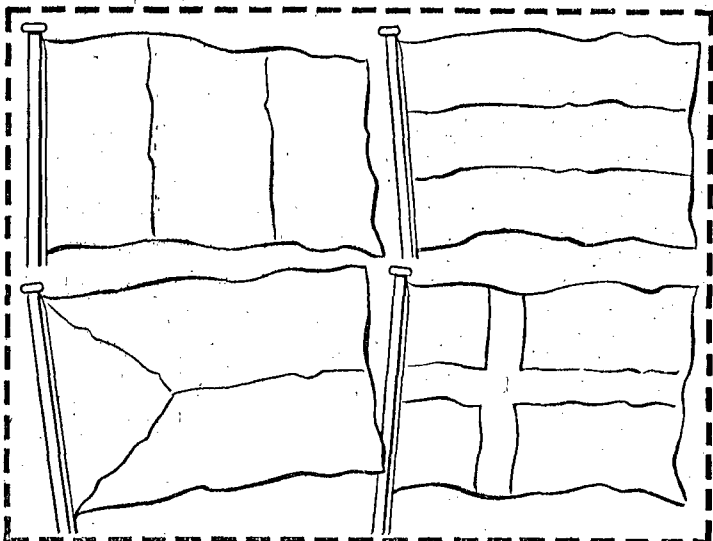
Remember to write your name, age, and address on the postcard, ask an adult to sign it as your own unaided work, then post to:

C N Competition No. 10,

3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.),

to arrive not later than Tuesday, October 21, the closing date.

Book Tokens will be awarded for the twenty best colourings according to age. The Editor's decision is final.

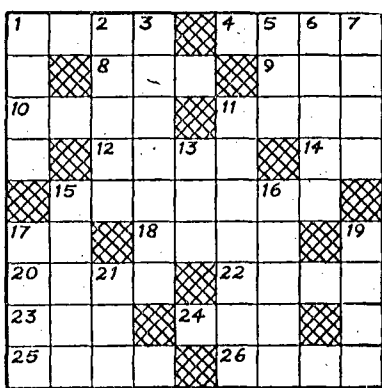


Crossword puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Happy. 4 It has gone! 8 Retire to it. 9 He may keep a watch on people. 10 Bang. 11 Whirl. 12 Tight. 14 Regarding. 15 Scold. 17 Exclamation. 18 He lives in Denmark. 20 Girl. 22 Not wild. 23 Fasten with a rope. 24 Showed the way. 25 Singles. 26 Ditch.

READING DOWN. 1 Cut. 2 To lessen. 3 Requests. 5 Snake. 6 Steeple. 7 Newcastle's river. 11 Undersized. 13 America's initials. 15 Fetter. 16 Prepared. 17 Highest male voice. 19 Lake. 21 Observe.

Answer next week



WANTED—CHRISTIAN NAMES

Do you know the Christian names of the following famous people?

NELSON, Davy, Van Gogh, Lincoln, Da Vinci, Kipling, Gladstone, Da Gama, Bolivar, Bismarck.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Who was born in a nutshell?

Who was born in a workhouse?

Which famous Englishwoman was named after the Italian city in which she was born?

Who was born of "love and sorrow"?

CATCH QUESTION

What coin is doubled in value when you take away half?

WORD SQUARE

LIGHT I can carry in my pocket. Musical treat.

He rises against authority.

Very nice with strawberries.

A table game.

LUCKY DIP

DID YOU KNOW?

WHEN Captain Cook first visited Tahiti, in 1769, the natives were using nails made of wood, bone, shell, and stone. When they saw iron nails they thought they were shoots of some very hard wood, and planted them.

BEDTIME

WHEN Mother says "It's time for bed,"

I rack my brains, I scratch my head,

I'm sure there must be jobs to do; Yes, I can think of quite a few.

Mother says "Just read for a while";

(She has an understanding smile) But minutes pass and bedtime's near,

And I must soon go up, I fear.

It would be fun now, wouldn't it, If bedtime hours were changed a bit?

And then, when it's my turn for bed,

For Mum and Dad to go instead.

TONGUE TWISTER

REGGIE recited rightly "Red roses rambled round rugged rocks."

JUST A FEW WORDS

1. A. Percussion means striking; musical instruments played by striking. (From Latin *percussio*.)
2. B. Flexible means easily bent, managed, or adapted. (From Latin *flexus*, bent.)
3. C. A memento is something kept or given as a reminder. (From Latin *meminisse*, to remember.)
4. A. Censorious means fault-finding. (From Latin *censor*, a magistrate of Ancient Rome.)
5. C. Morose means sour-tempered; gloomy, severe. (From Latin *morosus*, peevish.)
6. C. Deportment is behaviour; bearing; manners. (From Latin *deportare*, to carry off.)

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Short division. Yes, between grandmother and her daughter, who also has a daughter. Missing four. YORK. Wanted—Christian names. Horatio Nelson; Humphry Davy; Vincent Van Gogh; Abraham Lincoln; Leonardo Da Vinci; Rudyard Kipling; William Ewart Gladstone; Vasco Da Gama; Simon Bolivar; Otto von Bismarck. Missing vowels. Iroquois; Huron; Cree; Delaware; Cherokee; Navaho; Cheyenne. Happy birthday. Thumbelina; Oliver Twist; Florence Nightingale; Hiawatha. Catch question. A halfpenny.

Word square.
T O R C H
O P E R A
R E B E L
C R E A M
H A L M A

PORKY WAS TOO INQUISITIVE

PORKY was a most inquisitive young pig. Squealing excitedly, he would dash to investigate any new sound, or question any newcomer in the piggery alongside the oak-wood.

One autumn day when Porky and his friends were finishing the swill the farmer had poured into their feeding troughs, Porky spotted Madame Fieldmouse. She was sitting on the rim of his trough feeding from the splashes.

"Why are you taking our food? And why aren't you scared of the farmer?" spluttered Porky.

Madame Fieldmouse wiped her whiskers before replying. "He won't spot me if he comes. Humans don't if you stay still."

Porky did not believe her. Just then the farmer passed by, but he did not spot the motionless little brown mouse.

"There you are!" she cried. "And I am sharing your food today because I'm tired of acorns."

"What are acorns?" cried Porky, eager to sample a new food.

By now Madame Fieldmouse

was tired of his inquisitiveness. "Come and find out for yourself," she snapped.

Squealing with joy Porky led the others after her across the piggery to her home in the oak-wood. By chance there was a break in the wire and they could scramble through, and soon they were feeding on fallen acorns.

"Let's stay here and live on acorns for ever," Porky suggested. And the rest agreed.

Much later, when they heard the farmer coming to look for them, Porky remembered Madame Fieldmouse's advice. "Stay still, and he won't spot us," he whispered.

And the farmer didn't. But presently Porky heard a noise in the piggery. "We must investigate that!" he cried.

Back home they scrambled, squealing. And the farmer, hearing their squeals, came back and mended the wire.

"So curiosity has caught Porky out at last," laughed Mrs. Fieldmouse as she watched him.

JANE THORNCROFT

NOTHING IS HERE

A LEADLESS pencil without the wood.

A waterless, soapless bubble.

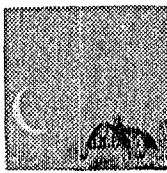
A blown egg without a shell.

A spent match without the stick.

A shadow with light shining on it. The letter "O" without the line round it.

OTHER WORLDS

IN the evening Mars is in the south-east and Saturn in the south-west. No planets are visible in the morning. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at five o'clock on the morning of Saturday, October 11.



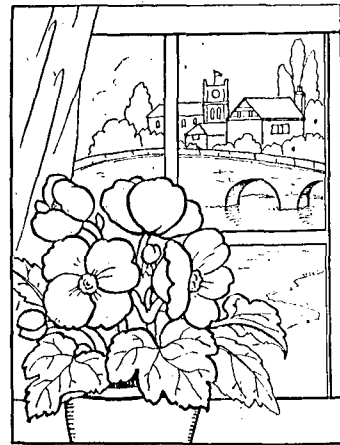
HOPPING AT WAPPING

CROAKED a frog on the marshes at Wapping.

"I have no intention of stopping. Old Heron's about, and there's no room for doubt,

That I'd better start rapidly hopping."

PAINT A PICTURE



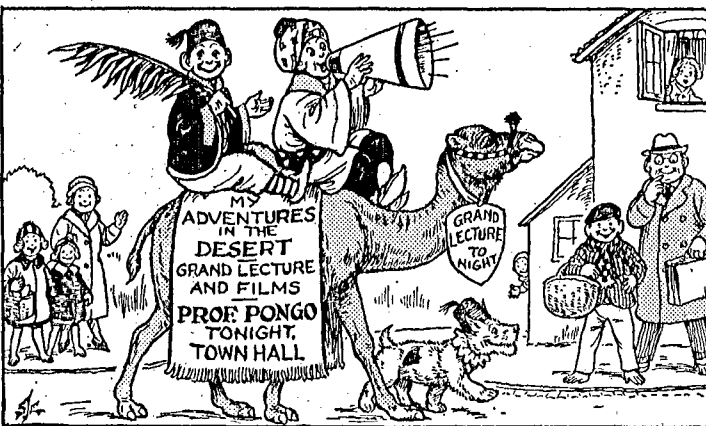
PASTE this picture on thin card, allow to dry, and then use paints or crayons to make a colourful picture.

JUST ANOTHER WAY

Here is another way of saying the proverb Birds of a Feather Flock Together.

KINDRED ornithological specimens congregate habitually.

JACKO GOES ON A LECTURE TOUR



Both Jacko and Chimp felt that Professor Pongo's lecture needed more colourful publicity than just a few small bills and posters. So they decided to tour the town announcing it. And Jacko hit on a brilliant idea. He and Chimp dressed up in fancy costumes, borrowed a camel from the zoo, and went round the town in great style. Professor Pongo's lecture and films were a great success—and drew one of the biggest audiences that had ever packed the Town Hall.

JUST AS GOOD AS HIS SISTER

WHEN Britain meets Sweden in a swimming international at Stockholm this weekend, 15-year-old Chris Wilkinson will receive his first "cap." Chris is the second



Internationals both—Chris and Diana Wilkinson

member of his family to gain this distinction, for his younger sister, Diana, has been one of our leading

swimmers for the past two seasons.

Chris was second to Chris Walkden in the National breast-stroke championship, and with him will represent England in the 200 metres breast-stroke event at Stockholm. Diana will swim in the 100 metres free-style.

Another newcomer to the British team is 16-year-old Beverley Tyrer, from Hendon, who gains her first international honour in the 100 metres backstroke event. Judy Grinham and Margaret Edwards were unable to accept the invitation. Judy has been swimming continuously for a long time now and felt she needed a rest. Margaret has just started her college term.

Beverley is the English Junior backstroke champion, and although one of the fastest swimmers in Europe, she is ranked only fourth in Britain. A pupil at The Mount School, Mill Hill, she keeps fit for swimming by playing tennis, lacrosse, and netball.

THEY WERE TAKING NO CHANCES

THERE is much more in winning the World Soccer Cup than merely playing the best football, it seems. The F.A. News, for instance, mentions that the Brazilian F.A. did a considerable amount of research in Sweden before the tournament this summer; and for months in advance of the competition the team ate nothing but Swedish food. They were not taking any chances of a player being ill because of unusual food!

Brazil, incidentally, has one of the very few beach football leagues in the world. Thousands of barefoot players enjoy nearly all their soccer on the firm wide stretches of sand. Copacabana, for instance, has 16 clubs taking part, Leblon has 12, and Urca has eight.

The youngsters certainly have to keep a close watch on the tide!

Soviet speedway

SPEEDWAY motor-cycle racing has been held in Russia for the first time this year—and proved very popular.

There have been three meetings at Moscow's Central Stadium. The first was held when the track was covered in ice, so the crowd were treated to even more spills than ever. It is possible that national speedway events will be organised next year.

MCC team for South America

WHILE one M.C.C. team is in Australia, another M.C.C. side will be in South America. On December 20 a party of 12 amateurs led by Hubert Doggart of Sussex will leave for a month's playing tour of the Argentine and Brazil. The team will be joined by the Hampshire off-spinner, Mervyn Burden, who is at present coaching out there.

Sporting Flashbacks

HAVING WON A SCOTTISH CUP MEDAL WHILE PLAYING FOR GLASGOW CELTIC — 1892 —

J. CAMPBELL WENT TO ENGLAND TO JOIN ASTON VILLA, WITH WHOM HE WON LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP AND F.A. CUP MEDALS IN 1897...

HE THEN RETURNED TO CELTIC, TO ADD TWO MORE SCOTTISH CUP MEDALS TO HIS COLLECTION — 1899 AND 1900 —

R.



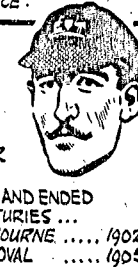
A 40-GUINEA CUP WON BY SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY HELPED TO START PLYMOUTH ARGYLE F.C. ...

EAGER TO KNOW IF THERE WAS A PUBLIC FOR PROFESSIONAL SOCCER IN RUGBY-MINDED PLYMOUTH, MR. CLARENCE SPOONER ARRANGED AN EXHIBITION MATCH BETWEEN SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY AND NOTTS COUNTY, WITH HIS CUP AS THE PRIZE ...

THE MATCH TOOK PLACE AT HOME PARK (BUILT FOR A RUGBY CLUB, BUT NEVER USED) AND WAS SO WELL ATTENDED THAT PLYMOUTH ARGYLE WERE LAUNCHED AS A PROFESSIONAL CLUB IN 1903 — AND THEY HAVE PLAYED AT HOME PARK EVER SINCE.

R.A. DUFF

— AUSTRALIA — HAD ONLY A SHORT TEST MATCH CAREER (3 YEARS). BUT IT BEGAN AND ENDED WITH CENTURIES ... 104 AT MELBOURNE 1902 146 AT THE OVAL 1905



Bristol Rover of Bristol City

PETER DOHERTY, manager of the Bristol City Football Club, is sharing his office at Ashton Gate with a newcomer. He sits a few feet away looking hard at everyone that enters the office, but not saying a word.

The newcomer is Peter's pet terrier, who now makes his daily calls to the ground with his master. The dog's name happens to be Rover, but there is no question of disloyalty to the "City," says his owner.

How to hold a racket



Roger Mills, all-England Junior Badminton Champion at 16 shows a member of the Wimbledon Squash and Badminton Club the proper grip of the racket

YOUNG AMATEURS TAKE THE FIELD

ENGLAND'S amateur footballers will be in action again on Saturday when they meet Finland on the Dulwich Hamlet ground. This will be the fourth meeting between the two countries. Way back in 1912, in the Stockholm Olympic Games, England won 4-0; the second meeting was not until 1951, England again winning. At Helsinki last September, however, the Finns won 4-3.

Martyn King might well have played in Saturday's match, for this young centre-forward had shown such fine form recently that he must have been considered for his first "cap." But Martyn, who won a Blue for Oxford in 1956, decided a few weeks ago to become a professional with Colchester United. Martyn is also winning honours with R.A.F. teams, for he is now doing his National Service.

Another young centre-forward who may achieve the highest hon-

ours is Kevin Corbett, of Romford. Kevin, a 15-year-old pupil at the South-East Essex Technical College, entered the Romford club's ground one evening and asked for a trial. He showed such promise that he was immediately chosen for the senior team in the First Qualifying Round of the F.A. Cup.

He made a story-book debut by scoring four goals. Kevin is expected to play one day with Fulham, having signed as an amateur for the famous League club.

Yet another centre-forward in the news is 18-year-old Ted Ley, who was recently chosen to make his first appearance for the Woking senior side.

Ted's opportunity came because his former schoolmaster at Cove Modern Secondary School, Charles Mortimore, was helping England's amateurs to a 6-2 victory over Ireland.

HARD-HITTERS

ONE young player the M.C.C. players will possibly look at when they reach Australia is Charles Robinson of Sydney. In a recent match there Charles took seven wickets for two runs (including two hat-tricks), then scored 142 not out in an hour. His century took him only 34 minutes.

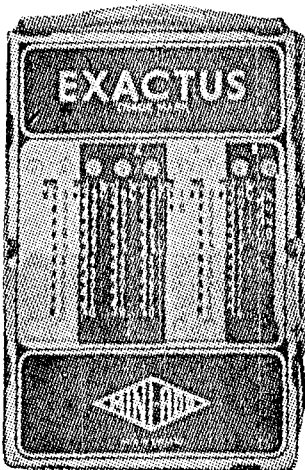
Another hard-hitter in the news recently was Colin Ingleby-Mackenzie, the Hampshire skipper. He has been awarded the trophy and 100 guineas presented for the fastest century of the season—61 minutes when playing against Somerset in June. The award for the best bowling performance went to Surrey's Peter Loader for his nine wickets for 17 runs against Warwickshire.

Other prize-winners were Mike Stewart, for the most catches in the season—61; John Murray, the wicket-keeper with the most "victims"—81; John Reid, for the best performance among the New Zealanders; and Derek Shackleton, for the special part he played in Hampshire's championship bid.

Partners at the Pony club



Gail Miller, of Kingston, Surrey, is only 16, but she is already a skilled horsewoman with 150 prizes to her credit. She is seen with her mount, seven-year-old Sultan, at the Kingston Pony Club.



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SPORTS QUIZ

1. John Hewie of Charlton Athletic is a Scottish International. But what is his native country?
2. Can you name the man who has represented England at hockey more times than any other player?
3. June Paul has run for England many times. In which sport has her husband represented England?
4. Which athlete won the 1500 metres in the last Olympics?
5. In which sport is there a Shooter and an Attack?
6. What is the F.I.S.?

Governing body of skiing. 6. The Federation Internationale de Ski—the only players who may score goals. 1. South Africa. 2. Tony Robinson, who has 40 caps. 3. Fencing. 4. Ronnie Delaney of Ireland. 5. Netball. They are the only players who may score goals.